## Remarks for the Metro Jackson Chamber of Commerce Luncheon June 7, 2002

- INTERESTING TO COME TO NEW YORK CITY TO ADDRESS METRO JACKSON CHAMBER
- UNDERSTAND MOST OF YOU HERE TODAY CAME UP FOR THE PICNIC
- THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP IN MAKING THE PICNIC A SUCCESS
- FOR THOSE OF YOU NOT FROM MISSISSIPPI, IT IS A PLEASURE TO HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO TELL YOU WHAT THE REST OF THE PEOPLE HERE ALREADY KNOW
- MISSISSIPPI IS A STATE THAT'S OPEN FOR BUSINESS
- **EDUCATION** 
  - o COMPUTERS IN CLASSROOM
  - o TEACHER PAY
    - NEW YORK TIMES EDITORIAL
- **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** 
  - ADVANTAGE MISSISSIPPI INITIATIVE
  - NISSAN AND ITS SUPPLIERS
  - HYUNDAI MISSISSIPPI IN THE "FINAL FOUR"
- MISSION TO JAPAN

- MISSISSIPPI COMMITTED TO CREATING QUALITY, HIGH-PAYING JOBS
  - WE HAVE THE WORKFORCE
    - PATHFINDER STUDY 68,000 UNDEREMPLOYED WORKERS
- FACTS SPEAK FOR THEMSELVES
  - o 21,000 NEW JOBS / \$6 BILLION INVESTED
  - o TOP TEN IN SITE SELECTION MAGAZINE
  - **O LED NATION IN EXISTING HOME SALES, 1ST QUARTER 2002**
  - LED NATION IN EXPORTS FOR 1<sup>ST</sup> HALF OF 2001
    - TOTAL EXPORTS OVER \$3.5 BILLION
    - OVER 60,000 JOBS RELATED TO EXPORTS
- IN MAY, FORMALLY OPENED MISSISSIPPI WORLD TRADE CENTER
  - o INCREASE OPPORTUNITIES FOR OUR PEOPLE
  - o FOCUS GLOBAL ATTENTION ON MISSISSIPPI
- ALWAYS WORKING FOR JOBS / PEOPLE DESERVE NO LESS
  - ROOF OVER THEIR HEAD
  - o FOOD ON THEIR TABLE
  - o CLOTHES ON THEIR BACK
  - SENSE OF SECURITY / CONFIDENCE
- DESPITE NATIONAL RECESSION, NOW IS NOT THE TIME TO BACK OFF INVESTMENTS AND EFFORTS TO GROW MISSISSIPPI
- BOTTOM LINE = MISSISSIPPI IS OPEN FOR BUSINESS
- GOOD TO BE WITH YOU TODAY